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BRAJFORD ON AVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR

1963





BRADFORD ON AVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION (Estimated Mid-year)...	...	...	5,920
AREA...	...	...	2,551 acres
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	£176,308
SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE	...	...	£682
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES	...	...	2,224
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	...	...	2.66

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CHAIRMAN of the COUNCIL	...	...	...	C.H.S. BOWLER, ESQ.
CHAIRMAN of the HOUSING COMMITTEE	...	...	...	MRS. A.A.H. REES
CHAIRMAN of the GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE	...	...	...	W.J. ANDREWS, ESQ.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	...	...	...	DR. J.L. DAVIES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	...	...	...	C.M. HOLSGROVE, CERT. S.I.B., MEAT AND FOODS INSPECTOR, M.A.P.H.I.

WESTBURY HOUSE,  
BRADFORD ON AVON,  
WILTS.  
WILSHIRE.

Tel. BRADFORD ON AVON 2256

A faint, light-colored watermark of a classical building with four columns and a pediment is visible in the background.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1963.

Faithfully yours,

JOHN L. DAVIES.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales 1963</u>
Legitimate .. .. .. ..	47	40	87	103	
Illegitimate.. .. .. ..	2	4	6	10	
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .. ..	<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>113</b>	

CRUDE LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population 15.7 19.3

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS 6.5% of Total Live Births 8.8

CORRECTED LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population 17.3 20.2 18.2  
(Comparability factor 1.10)

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate .. .. .. ..	2	2	4	0
Illegitimate.. .. .. ..	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .. ..	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 live and still births 41.2 Nil 17.2

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS 51 46 97 113

TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES 34 42 76 73

DEATH RATE per 1,000 population  
ALL CAUSES 12.8 12.5

CORRECTED DEATH RATE per 1,000 population  
(Comparability factor 0.91) 11.6 11.5 12.2

INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year)

Legitimate .. .. .. ..	0	0	0	3
Illegitimate.. .. .. ..	1	0	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .. ..	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

INFANT MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 Live Births

Legitimate .. .. .. ..		Nil	29.1
Illegitimate.. .. .. ..		166.7	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .. ..		10.8	26.6

NEO-NATAL DEATHS (under 4 weeks) 1 0 1 3

EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS (under 1 week) 1 0 1 2

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE per 1,000  
Live Births 10.8 26.6 14.2

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE  
per 1,000 Live Births 10.8 17.7

Vital Statistics (Cont'd.)

	<u>1962</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales 1963</u>
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births)	51.5	17.7
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u> (including abortion)	Nil	Nil
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE</u> per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Nil	Nil

### CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1963

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1963	Sex	Total	Age in Years						Total	Under 4 weeks	All Ages
			15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75			
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Diabetes	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	8	7	4	7	-	-	-	1	-	-
Coronary Disease, Angina	F	7	4	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Heart Disease	F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Circulatory Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Influenza	F	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Bronchitis	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	M	3	2	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
<b>Total All Causes</b>	F	42	24	11	5	4	2	2	11	11	9

1963

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis			
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-9 years	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14 years	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Age Group	Measles		Respiratory Tuberculosis		Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 1 year	2	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 years	1	-	-	-	-	-
3 years	-	1	-	-	-	-
4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-9 years	-	4	-	-	-	-
10-14 years	-	2	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 years and over	-	-	1	1	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Puerperal Pyrexia.....	9
Food Poisoning.....	52
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	--
Acute Pneumonia.....	1
Erysipelas.....	1

An outbreak of food poisoning, due to Clostridium Welchi, occurred at a boarding school in December, affecting 52 of the pupils and staff. Fortunately the symptoms were mild and most of the victims had recovered within 24 hours. The outbreak was almost certainly due to re-heated stew, prepared the previous evening and kept at room temperature until subsequently

re-heated before serving the following lunch time.

Many outbreaks of food poisoning are due to the consumption of re-heated foods, which are best avoided altogether but if this is not possible, the food should be rapidly cooled and kept below 50°F.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following figures for immunisations and vaccinations carried out in Bradford on Avon in 1963:-

IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth		1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53
Primary imms. completed during 1963	Diph.	25	44	8	3	-	5	-
	Wh/c.	19	42	8	3	-	2	-
	Tet.	25	44	8	3	-	5	-
Reinf. injections administered during 1963	Diph.	-	2	20	7	3	23	1
	Wh/c.	-	1	5	6	1	5	-
	Tet.	-	2	18	4	2	19	1

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age Group	Months				1	2-4	Years	
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12			5-14	15
Vaccinations	5	10	3	-	4	2	14	9
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	10

COMPLETED POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATIONS  
DURING 1963

Age Group	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	4th inj.	3 oral doses	3rd oral after 2 inj.s.	4th oral after 2 inj.s. + 1 oral dose	4th or after 3 oral inj.s.
Children born in 1963	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Children born in 1962	3	-	-	31	1	-	-
Children born in 1961	3	6	-	13	2	-	-
Children and young persons born 1943 - 1960	1	4	-	21	-	-	52
Young persons born 1933 - 1942	-	-	-	4	1	-	-
Others	1	5	-	20	-	-	-
Totals	8	15	-	94	4	-	52

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at the Manor Hospital, Combe Park, Bath, carries out all bacteriological examination of milk, ice-cream and other foods. Messrs. Waterfall & O'Brien of Queen's Square, Bristol, act as Consulting Analysts to the Council.

Hospital Facilities

These are the responsibility of the South Western Regional Hospital Board.

The Bradford on Avon District Hospital continues to be available for general cases whilst many of the residents can, and do, avail themselves of hospital facilities in Bath.

The Berryfield Maternity Hospital, Bradford on Avon, is used both for local cases and cases from the West Wilts Hospitals Management Committee's area.

Claverton Hospital, Bath, is the main Hospital for infectious diseases for a wide area and all serious ones, Poliomyelitis, for example, are admitted directly there.

#### Other Facilities

(1) Home Helps: The County Council Home Help Service gives great assistance in cases of acute illness and even more in giving assistance in the homes of aged persons.

(2) Nursing in the Home: One midwife and one nurse are available for the nursing of expectant mothers and the sick in the home.

(3) In addition to the above, the Wilts. County Council also provide for the following services in the area:

Mental Health.

Services under part III of the National Health Service Act for the prevention of illness, care and after care, health education.

Ambulances and Ambulance Cars.

Health Visiting.

Child Welfare.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951

No action had to be taken under Section 47 during the year.

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#### WATER SUPPLY

This continued from the same sources as in previous years, and once again bacteriological sample results of well water underlined the vital part which chlorination takes in assuring a wholesome supply being maintained. So long as water continues to be taken from these sources, I am of the opinion that consideration must be given to the provision of stand-by chlorinators for both wells.

#### Chemical Analysis

	Main Station	Sub-Station
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#### Physical Examination

Appearance	Clear and colourless. No odour. (both stations)	
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#### General Chemical Examination

Reaction pH	7.8	7.4
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#### Parts per Million

Ammonia (as N)		
Free	0.03	0.055
Albuminoid	0.05	0.02
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	25	171

	<u>Parts per Million</u>	
	<u>Main Station</u>	<u>Sub-Station</u>
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	41	282
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	0.60	0.32
Nitrogen in Nitrite	less than 0.01	0.01
Nitrogen in Nitrate	4.0	1.3
Total Solids	442	782
Loss on ignition	40	37
Appearance on ignition	Slight charring	No charring
Hardness: Temporary	244	296
Permanent	90	109
	<u>334</u>	<u>405</u>
Lead and Copper	less than 0.1	0.1
Fluoride	0.14	0.33

J.L. DAVIES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Bradford on Avon Urban District Council:  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my report for 1963.

This year saw the completion of the Tory Preservation Scheme, Phase I, which was officially opened by the Earl of Euston on 26th June, and this was quickly followed by the preparation of a further scheme for Nos. 8-16 Middle Rank. In addition, the Council agreed to the preparation of a Re-development plan for the St. Margaret's Hill Area, to primarily include a second block of Old People's Flats, and this was still under consideration at the end of the year.

Phase II of the Trowbridge Road Council house site was completed late in April, but due to an unavoidable delay, work was not started on Phase III until October. Houses built by private enterprise show a marked increase on previous years, and judging by the number of applications for private development already approved or under consideration, this trend is likely to continue.

Once again it is a good thing to report that no legal action was necessary under any of the Public Health enactments, satisfactory results always having been obtained where necessary, as a result of consultation and co-operation.

Finally, I would like to express appreciation of the support I have received during the year from both members and staff of the Council.

Faithfully yours,

C.M. HOLSGROVE.

Public Health Inspector.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Refuse Collection

The once weekly kerbside collection for all areas was adequately maintained, despite the exceptionally severe conditions of snow and ice encountered during the early part of the year. I am sure the Council would wish me to record their appreciation of the way the Dustmen maintained collections during this period.

### Refuse Disposal

Tipping continued in the same area as before under the very able control of the Tip Attendant, Mr. York, whom I must yet again congratulate for the way in which he maintains the Tip and approach road, under all weather conditions. Some regrading of the Tip banks adjacent to the river, was carried out during the year, at a cost of £160, principally to old areas where slipping had occurred due to settlement and flood erosion.

The above Cleansing Services, together with Street Cleansing, were examined by the Minister's Public Cleansing Inspector on 27th August. He expressed complete satisfaction with the arrangements.

### SALVAGE

5 tons 10 cwts. 3 qrs. of baled waste paper and fibreboard were dispatched to the Board Mills during the year. It is apparent that mechanical baling will have to be considered, if output is to be increased, and a report dealing with this was under consideration at the end of the year.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

By the end of the year, work was well advanced on the Sewage Works Re-construction and it is anticipated it will be fully operational about the middle of 1964.

There were no Effluent Reports during 1963.

### SWIMMING BATH

The principle use was again by children, both in term under school supervision, and during holiday periods. A new Attendant was appointed before the Baths were opened, and I am pleased to report

he proved very satisfactory for both maintenance and supervision. For the first time, break point chlorination was used and proved very successful both bacteriologically and in improving the appearance of the water. Twice daily chlorine and pH readings were recorded to ensure the sterility of the water. Three check samples taken during the year were all satisfactory.

### HOUSING

With the completion of Trowbridge Road, Phase II, and the Tory preservation, the Council's total stock of dwellings rose to 613, with a further 55 of Phase III under construction. Improvements to pre-war units were continued by the provision of roof insulation to some, and a progressive programme of electrical re-wiring to modern schedule requirements. A report on future requirements confirmed the need for a more balanced stock of dwellings by building additional one and two bedroomed units. A revised layout for the development of land at the rear of Tory was approved, to provide blocks of garages for that area together with approximately 26 building plots.

Number of houses classified as unfit:-

Demolition Orders.....	3
Closing Orders.....	7
Undertakings accepted.....	3
	13

Number of Closing Orders	
cancelled or rescinded.....	1
Number of Undertakings	
cancelled or rescinded.....	13
	14

#### Houses built during the year

By the Council.....	17
By private enterprise.....	67

#### Improvement Grants approved

Discretionary,.....	11
Standard.....	12

### FOOD

#### Milk

Acting under the agreed delegation by the County Council, of functions under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, the

following samples were taken:-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Passed Prescribed Tests</u>	<u>Failed Prescribed Tests</u>
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	26	1
Pasteurised	20	Nil
Channel Island (Pasteurised)	17	Nil
Sterilised	2	Nil
Total Samples taken.....	66	
No. of Licenced Dealers.....	7	

All milk retailed in this area is obtained from bottling plants situated in other districts, and is sold here as "Pre-packed". Six of these dealers obtain their milk from the Wilts. United Dairies plant at Chippenham, whilst the remaining one, the Co-operative Society Ltd., obtain theirs from the Co-op Creamery at Melksham.

The "Pasteurised" grade of milk ceased to exist at the end of September.

#### Ice Cream

No. of premises registered for the storage  
and sale of ice cream.....26

#### Results of Sampling

	<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade II</u>	<u>Grade III</u>	<u>Grade IV</u>
No. of Samples taken..	36	2	Nil	Nil

#### Water Supply

Eight routine samples taken from the distribution main were all satisfactory. Fluoridation of the Town Supply derived from Avoncliff was not considered, but because the supply is augmented by water from Bath Waterworks, the Council were asked by this Undertaking for their views on Fluoridation. It was resolved that no objection be made to receiving water from Bath which had been subject to fluoridation.

#### Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

During the year, routine periodic inspections were carried out, and no formal notices under the Regulations were served. All the food premises in this area maintained a satisfactory standard of hygiene.

#### RODENT CONTROL

93 premises were treated as a result of rat or mice infestation, and this involved 366 visits by the Operative.

### Sewer Treatments

With the growth of estate development, the number of manholes in the sewer system increased to 263. The Spring treatment was carried out using impregnated whole wheat grains and seems to have been very effective, the 29 "takes" then obtained being reduced to 13 in the Autumn.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

For the first time in many years, a number of complaints were received of atmospheric pollution - all regarding the same source. The nuisance was not one of smoke, but of fine rubber dust and fumes emitted from a centrally situated factory, and investigation revealed it to have arisen as a result of a considerable increase in output of the tyre re-treading section. The management were most co-operative, and by the end of the year proposals had been agreed which it was hoped would eliminate the nuisance.

### DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957

No. of premises licenced.....4  
No. of breaches of Order.....Nil

The general arrangements are satisfactory, and, having regard to the somewhat unpleasant nature of the process, are quite adequately controlled.

### PET ANIMALS ACT

There is one premises licenced under the above Act, and this operated satisfactorily throughout the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (GENERAL)

It is pleasing to record that in contrast to previous years, complaints arising from the mushroom firm's composting process were virtually non-existent. There were no complaints, either, arising from the rather unpleasant swill boiling carried on by another firm in the Northleigh area, although complaints were received as a result of this firm spraying their septic tank liquer on agricultural land in the area.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

(1) INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number of Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Number of: Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	11	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	19	23	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	9	-	-
Total	27	43	-	-

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (Cont'd.)

(2) Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	No. cases in which defects found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	4	4	-	-	-

OUTWORK  
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	No. of out- workers in (2) August list required by Section 100 (1) (s)	No. of cases (3) of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions (4) for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of (5) work in unwholesome conditions	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel - making, etc., cleaning and washing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Household Linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables and chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches & keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquets and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
Making of boxes or receptacles - paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals carried fwd.	2	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK (Continued)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Totals brought fwd.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Feather Sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and Sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

C.M. HOLSGROVE  
Public Health Inspector.





